

THE KLAXON



AUGUST



2024

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The official Journal of the South Coast Vintage Car Club inc. Post Office Box 272 WOLLONGONG EAST N.S.W. 2500. www.southcoastvintagecarclub.org.au. General meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Heininger Room, Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto at **7.30** p.m. **All** members, visitors and prospective new members are **most welcome**. This club is a member of the C.H.M.C. and the C.M.C.

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2023 – 2024

<p>PRESIDENT: Bob McLEAN 1 Rich Dr HORSLEY 2530 Ph: 4244 1320 rjmclean@optusnet.com.au</p>	<p>VICE PRESIDENT: & PROPERTY OFFICER: Paul COOK 38 Balfour St. Fairy Meadow 2519 Ph: 4284 3702 pdcook@shoal.net.au</p>	<p>SECRETARY: Ron DENNISS Ph: 0414 716744 rondenniss74@gmail.com</p>
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<p>DEFIBRILLATOR CUSTODIANS: Peter ELLIS Ph: 0407 533 949 Graeme WHEATLEY Ph: 0411 515 002</p>	<p>LIFE MEMBERS: Ted ARNTS John CHURCHILL Denis DONALD Bob McLEAN Max VORMISTER Brenda SAWTELL (Dec) Bill KIRKLAND (dec) Joan JOBSON (dec) Paul COOK</p>	<p>HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: Lesley ARNTS Noreen CHURCHILL (dec) Betty DONALD June McLEAN Diana VORMISTER Louise COOK (dec)</p>

The articles and opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the SOUTH COAST VINTAGE CAR CLUB INC. All items for inclusion in the magazine should be handed to the Editor at the General Meetings, or posted or (preferably) emailed to the Editor at the address listed above.

NOTE: If you would like to receive the magazine by email, send your details to the webmaster at:

editor@southcoastvintagecarclub.org.au

CLUB ITEMS FOR SALE

(All prices include GST)

Cloth badges \$4.00, small badges \$12.00, car stickers \$1.50, car badges \$30.00
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	\$48 l/s
Jacket	\$60
Club “name” stickers for bumpers, rego plates, windscreens	\$4 ea

NOTE: Prices subject to change without notice

Contact **Garry O’Reilly** on **0407 077 643**.
Garry will bring any item to the meeting by request.

Note: A Justice of the Peace is available after the meetings.

BANK TRANSFER DETAILS

If making payment by Bank Transfer – for clothing, or membership fees, or anything else – please use these details.

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Remember to include your name and the reason for your payment (“Fees” etc).

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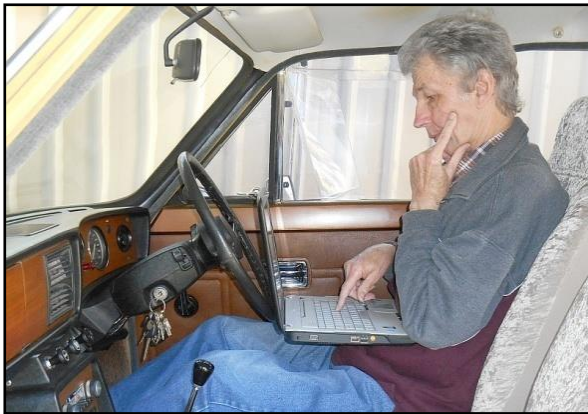
Please check to see if your name is on the roster. **If you are on the roster and can’t bring supper, please arrange for someone else on the same roster to bring an extra plate, or arrange to swap with someone on a different month.**

AUGUST: Greg & Kerrie WRIGHT, Helen & Joshua JAMES, Bob & June McLEAN, Les & Colleen HALL, Max & Diana VORMISTER, Peter & Georgie ELLIS, Ian & Jenny MARTIN, Chris & Lynn FITZPATRICK, Martin WEST, Ernst & Joan JENSEN, Ed & Helen GILMORE, Stephen & Heath RHIND, Michael HOUGH, Keiran & Trish SHEPHERD

SEPTEMBER: Trevor WEBB, Kevin WILLIS, Doug & Sharon NEWALL, Paul COOK, Jim & Chris BADGER, Graham & Shirley FRIEND, Peter & Sue GOODGER, Michael & Maureen SULLIVAN, Ralf & Lali CORBACHO, John & Janelle CARROLL, Leslie & Lesley WHITE

COVER PHOTO: Some of the cars taking part in Denis Donald’s Vintage Round The Lake run in June. (See page 22).

AUTO-THOUGHTS



It's cold. And it's windy. Well, that's how it is as I write this editorial. If that is how the weather is as you start reading this edition, well grab a warm cuppa and settle in – we have another packed issue for you this month!

There is a report on Denis Donald's Vintage Around The Lake run, with lots of photos. (And one of those photos is on the cover!). There is also a report on

the Wagga Wagga Rally; again with plenty of photos. And of course we have reports on other runs that have happened as well.

There are a couple of special features, and even a cooking recipe that has been requested by the members. Yes, it's all here folks!

One of those special features is on AI – Artificial Intelligence. What's that got to do with vintage cars you might ask? Well, it's got a lot to do with it. If you've read any articles on vintage or classic cars, or watched any videos on them, there is a fair chance you've encountered it already, whether you know it or not. And even if you haven't, you are guaranteed to encounter it in the future. As an example, there is an article here on the classic car scene, and its benefits – for personal enjoyment as well as the economy – that was written entirely by computer. No human was involved – apart from the human who asked it to write the article. But the downside of AI is that it can make mistakes. So you can be reading something that contains erroneous information. I've given it a try and caught it out.

I've had this article on the back-burner for several months, but kept running out of room to put it in. Consequently I have to say that the examples where I caught it giving incorrect information were done several months ago. If you tried it now maybe it would be more correct. Maybe, maybe not. Regardless, it shows how AI can come up with wrong information. And when journalists and other writers are using it to produce content that we read, well, there are dangers. So I think it is important that we are all aware of AI and the benefits and pitfalls it can involve.

On a very different subject, I was sad to hear of the passing of Fred Naase. Sadly, I wasn't aware that he had been so ill, and was shocked to hear this news. Fred was a good bloke! He was friendly and had a good sense of humour. I liked him. I'd often have a chat with him when we were on a run or event.

It was his car that first caught my attention. In particular, the beautiful red Alfa Spider 2000. A beautiful car that always looked immaculate. Alfas have always appealed to me; I've admired them since I was a young teenage car-nut. Naturally, that attracted me to talk to the owner: and that's how I got to know Fred.

So I thought it would be appropriate to have a look at the Alfa Spider this month; with particular reference to the model Fred had. It's a tribute to the Alfa, but also a tribute to Fred.

Elwyn Jordan (Editor)

Email: ejordan@optusnet.com.au

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Ribbonwood Centre, Dapto

Tuesday 9th July 2024.

President Bob McLean opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed everyone.

Apologies: As per attendance book.

Members in attendance: 72

Visitors: Andrew Newman introduced by Paul Cook. Bill Holder introduced by Ralf Corbacho.

New member badges presented to Greg and Debbie Ellis by the president.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Minutes of the previous meeting held on the 11-6-24 and recorded in the Klaxon in July 2024 be confirmed as a correct record of that meeting. Moved by secretary, seconded by Colin Boylan and carried by the members.

Business Arising: Peter Akhurst said in the July Klaxon it had said he had done Plate Registrar for 13 years and should have been 18 years. Sorry Peter.

Correspondence Inwards: Nil.

Correspondence Out: Nil.

Treasurer's Report:

By Lloyd. Lloyd read out the Treasurer's report from 1st June 2024 till 30th June 2024. Lloyd moved it be accepted, seconded by Gary O'Reilly and carried by the members. Lloyd read out accounts for payment being-

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| • Reimburse Ted Arnts, Aust/post | July Klaxon | \$243.40 |
| • Worldwide Printing | July Klaxon and bylaws | \$718.00 |
| • Digital Website | For 2 years | \$293.10 |

Lloyd moved they be paid, seconded by Neville Egan and carried by the members.

Events Director's Report:

By Ken. Ken read out all past and upcoming events till 13 August 2024. Denis spoke about the run around the lake and had a new car there by Ralf Corbacho being a 1930 Buick. Everyone had a great day. Bob McLean spoke about Cordeaux Dam for lunch. There was only about 7 there. It was a bit of a cold day and he left in the Daimler but had to take it home and come in modern as the car played up. Ken spoke about Stuart Park and was a great day by all watching the skydivers land. Catharina Beattie spoke about the lunch day at Farm Cafe just out of Moss Vale, it was cold and wet but they put us in the shed for us to use with a couple of heaters, everyone enjoyed good food. David Philip spoke about Christmas in July at Illawarra Yacht Club. Good service and good meal enjoyed by all and thanked John Dunn for his effort to setting up for members. Gary Woodward spoke about the upcoming event to Cleary Bros Museum at Port Kembla and how to get into the car park, try to be there at 9.30 pm. Bob and Ken spoke about Bunnings for the 29th August and 7th September cars for show, put your name down as we have to let them know by 11th July 2024.

General Business:

President spoke about the bylaws that were sent out. Please read them and contact Greg Wright with your feedback by the 31st July, we need to finish them off. President donated a cheque to Steve Rhind for their demonstration for members to use the defibrillator by Marine Rescue. Rex Kilner moved a motion to thank Peter Akhurst for his 18 years service. Catharina Beattie spoke about the 1928 Chev her and Neil bought is now registered and hope to bring it out on runs. Catharina Beattie put forward 2 motions in writing to the members to vote on. 1st motion- that if there is more than one person nominated for a committee position that a paper ballot be held. Moved by Catharina, seconded by Steve Rhind and carried by the members. 2nd motion- that the changing of start time meetings be a paper ballot moved by Catharina, seconded by Steve Rhind and carried by the members.

For Sales and Wanted. NIL

The raffle was won by: 1st- Blue B37- Bob McLean

The Badge Draw was won by: No.26- Alf Gregory.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9-13 p.m.



COME ON! IT'S JUST ONCE IN THE WHOLE YEAR!!



If you've been to our monthly meetings in recent times you will have noticed that **our supper is sadly lacking**.

For example, at our June meeting there were just two plates on the table! This despite there being 14 names on the Supper roster. Last month it was better, but there

were still six people who didn't come – and only one of those arranged for someone else to bring their contribution for the night.

Supper is an important part of our meetings. (*Some people say it's the best part! ☺*). But it needs people to contribute to the feast – bring a plate of biscuits, cakes, whatever! And to facilitate this we have a roster! (It's right there on page 4). All it requires is that for one meeting a year you be one of those people who bring a plate of something for the members to enjoy. **Just one night a year!** (*Okay, well, two; if you include our Christmas meeting, when everyone is supposed to bring something*).

So **please look at the Supper Roster and check if you are on it for that month!** And if you can't come, please arrange someone to take your contribution to the meeting, or arrange to swap with someone else.

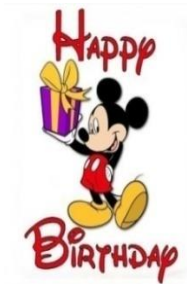
PLEASE NOTE: Because some names have been taken off the roster, we have had to move some people around to keep the numbers for each month as even as possible. So please check each month – **you could now be on a different month!**

NEWS AROUND THE CLUB

MEMBERS & FRIENDS ON THE SICK LIST



I don't have any names to report, but to any other club members or their family who are unwell, we send our best wishes for a speedy recovery.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to: Betty Donald, Gudrun Naase, Les Hall, Joy Melville, and John Dunn

We hope you have a great day filled with love and laughter.



AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary to: Colin and Gail Boylan

We wish you a very Happy Anniversary as you celebrate this special day. May you have many more happy years together.



AGM THIS MONTH

Remember, this month is our club's Annual General Meeting (as well as our ordinary Monthly Meeting, of course).

So come along and have your say in who is elected to run our club.



NOTE: The deadline for submitting Events, advertisements, and other articles for publication, is strictly **2nd Tuesday of the month – the Monthly Meeting.** (Until midnight). (Minutes excepted – by arrangement with Secretary).

All items for publication are to be given or posted to the Editor, or (preferably) emailed to the Editor's email address, as listed on page 3.



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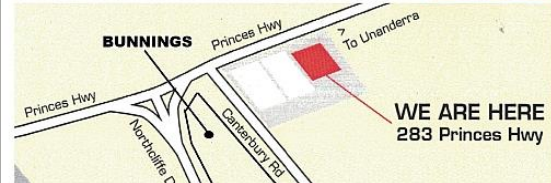
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EVENTS CALENDAR

SOUTH COAST VINTAGE CAR CLUB - COMING EVENTS



EVENTS DIRECTOR:	Ken Horspool 0421 258 797 activities@southcoastvintagecarclub.org.au
EVENTS COMMITTEE	

If you would like to put on an event for our Club, please contact the Events Director or an Events Committee member.

Please note:

- 1) Members with vehicles on Conditional Registration NOT PARTICIPATING in the Log Book Scheme:
 - a) May use their vehicle within a 20kilometre radius of the vehicle's normal garage for the purpose of test drive and/or refuel ONLY, without obtaining SCVCC permission;
 - b) Wishing to use their vehicle in any event or function NOT PUT ON by the SCVCC MUST obtain SCVCC permission. Forms are available from the club's web site and must be authorized PRIOR to the event by the Plate Registrar or Assistant or President;
- 2) Members with vehicles on Conditional Registration PARTICIPATING in the Log Book Scheme MUST COMPLETE AN ENTRY IN THE LOG BOOK for any vehicle use which is not an organized club event. This includes completing an entry for:
 - a) Any test drives and / or refuels;
 - b) Participating in any event or function NOT PUT ON by the SCVCC or your nominated secondary club(s);
- 3) Members with vehicles on Conditional Registration participating in organized events put on by their secondary club(s) must notify the SCVCC Plate Registrar or Assistant to have their participation logged in an SCVCC Day Book;
- 4) The club has a common Conditional Registration expiry date of the 9th Dec. Vehicle inspection days are the last Saturday in Oct and the last Sunday in Nov each year;
- 5) You must be a financial member of the club for your Conditional Registration to be valid. This means paying your annual membership fees promptly – due 1st July each year.
- 6) The club has a By-Law requiring any member with vehicle(s) on conditional registration to attend a minimum of 4 club events each year to maintain the registration(s). The committee may grant an exemption in extenuating circumstances;
- 7) When on an organized club event, you must enter your name and vehicle in the Events book. The Events Director or their nominee will have it at all Club events, SO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ENTER YOUR DETAILS ON THE DAY;
- 8) PETS ON CLUB EVENTS: If you take your pet(s) on any club events, to save any embarrassment and unpleasantness, please check with the venue or destination to make sure pets are allowed: (i.e. National Parks, motels, etc.).

Saturday and Sunday 3rd and 4th August	All Holden Weekend Hawkesbury Showground. Swap Meet Saturday, Show and Shine Sunday.
Sunday 4th August	Motor Expo Nowra - POSTPONED until October.
Wednesday 7th August	Club Jamberoo, north side of Allowrie St Jamberoo. Lunch midday. Some parking in front of the club, plenty on the street. Need numbers.
Monday 12th August	Bulli Beach BYO lunch midday. Follow Farrell Road or Park Road east onto Trinity Row, turn into car park to the north of the Surf Club and Café.
Tuesday 13th August	Monthly Meeting, Ribbonwood Centre Dapto. 7.30pm. THIS IS OUR AGM
Saturday 17th August	Hampton Park, Robertson. BYO lunch midday. Meet on Tongarra Rd opp Albion Park Bowlo 11:15am, for 11:30am. departure.
Sunday 25th August	Shannons Eastern Creek from 10am. Tickets \$25 from Ken. We are in Area A. Leave from the top of Mt Ousley at 8.00am.
Thursday 29th August	Bunnings Kembla Grange display evening. 6pm – 8pm. Details: See Ken (or email).
Friday 30th August	Piper House (formally St Lukes Village Nursing Home), situated at the southern end of Lindsay Evans Place Dapto. Entertain the aged care residents from 10.30am with a sausage sizzle, ice cream and live music to be provided.
Sunday 1st September	Dogs in the Park – Dapto Showground. Talk to Ken
Saturday 7th September	Wingecarribee Reservoir Reserve midday BYO lunch. Off Kangaloon Rd near Sheepwash Rd with a clear signpost. Take the Tourist Rd from the top of Macquarie Pass turning left on Sheepwash Rd and left again onto Kangaloon Rd or stay on the Illawarra Hwy through Robertson and turn onto Sheepwash Rd towards Bowral at the roundabout, turning right onto Kangaloon Rd. Meet on Tongarra Rd opp Albion Park Bowlo at 10.45 for an 11.00 departure. No dogs.
Tuesday September	10th Monthly Meeting, Ribbonwood Centre Dapto. 7.30pm.
Thursday September	12th Illawarra Yacht Club Cake and Coffee 10am.

Sunday 15th September	All British Display Day, Hawkesbury Showground. Tickets \$10 from Ken.
Sunday 15th September	National Motoring Heritage Day – Berry Showground \$10. Dress in period. This day was postponed from May. Need numbers.
Tuesday 17th September	Shellharbour club Fiftysix Dining for lunch midday – need numbers.
Saturday and Sunday 21st and 22nd September	Clarendon Rally Hawkesbury Showground. Themes include Chrysler Cars, Chev trucks and Vintage Motorcycles. \$10 entry.
Wednesday 25th September	Bombo Beach Reserve BYO lunch midday. At the northern end of the Beach – need to use your map or navigator.

EVENTS FURTHER OUT.

Saturday 26th October – First Inspection Day.

Sunday 27th October – 100 years of MG - Fitzroy Falls Reservoir Reserve.
(Note change of date.)



CLUB FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE!!!

If you haven't renewed your club membership fees, **the fees are now overdue!**

Single Membership \$50. Member & Spouse \$60

You can pay the treasurer at the next meeting, but if you aren't at the meeting you can mail your fees to the treasurer.

Alternatively, **you can pay by E.F.T.** See bank details below:

BSB: 062 644 A/C: 00903159

(Remember to put your name as reference on the payment!)

NOTE: If you haven't paid your fees **you cannot drive your club-registered vehicle** as it is now unregistered.

Members should also understand that if the fees are not paid, **your membership will lapse** and you will need to rejoin the club.

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Traffic on Sydney Harbour Bridge. Photo taken around 1950.



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Offices in Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE FRED NAASE, A CLUB MEMBER AND A DEAR FRIEND.

June McLean

Fred and Gudrun are long term members of the South Coast Vintage Car Club, joining in July 1974 with a 1927 Chev. Over the year, they were the proud owners of a 1981 280 Mercedes Benz; a 1972 Alfa Spyder, and more recently a 450 SLC Mercedes Benz.

Fred was a quiet, gentle and unassuming gentleman, who just got on with life. He was a dear friend and over the years we shared a lot of laughs and good times. Along with Betty & Denis Donald and Helen James, Bob and I, we shared some fun holidays, both with the Car Club and outside of the car club. In more recent times, we have been to some wonderful concerts in Sydney together.

Fred was always jovial and had a dry sense of humour, which endeared him to those who were fortunate enough to know him. He will be greatly missed.

Fred is now free of all pain, May He Rest in Peace!

On behalf of all the members and friends in the South Coast Vintage Car Club, I wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to Fred's lovely wife Gudrun and son Keith.



WHEN THEY WERE NEW



Another new section! I was scanning some old photos of cars for a Facebook page and thought these would be good as a fill-in extra for the Klaxon.

The photos I am currently scanning were all taken at the annual show at Young, when I was holidaying there with my Grandparents. As a car-mad teenager, one of my favourite things to do each year when the Show

came to town was to check out the new car displays.

This photo was taken in 1967. The car is, of course, the then current VC **Valiant**. I liked these, and commented at the time that it was my favourite of the "Big Three". It was more powerful than the Holden and Falcon of the time. And – in standard trim at least – seemed to handle better too. That was my impression then anyway.

CLASSIC NEWS

COLLECTING CARS



If you are a collector of model cars (I have a collection of models, of various scales), you might be interested in this. A series of collector cars – along with an accompanying book about them – has recently been produced. The first one was this Holden Monaro. Just \$6.99 for the model and the book. The car is 1:43 scale, well made, and detailed.

The book contains the background to the car, a full description of it, and even a Wheels magazine road test.

I don't know how many will be in the series, but future ones they mention include an EH Holden, XY Falcon GT, XA Falcon GT, Holden Torana A9X, XK Falcon, and Valiant Charger E49; and more.

I won't collect them all (I've got nowhere to put them!), but I can see myself buying a few, of my favourite cars.

INSPIRING THE YOUNG

Attracting younger folk to the membership is a concern for most clubs; well, most that are concerned about the future of the classic vehicle scene anyway. Some clubs do it by taking a modern approach; such as having a greater presence on social media, or setting criteria that appeals more to the younger generations, but one club is considering a more innovative approach. I won't name the club, because it is something that is only being considered at the moment, but the suggestion is that they set up a kind of grant, or sponsorship, to help young people get a start into classic vehicle ownership. Of course the setting up of such a scheme would be very involved – establishing specific rules and guidelines, as well as having mentors to help the selected applicants with their entry into, and journey with, the classic vehicle movement. But it's a commendably innovative thought!

NEW NUMBER PLATES



Transport for NSW has introduced a new number-plate for cars in the Classic Vehicle Scheme (CVS) (Modifieds). The plates have been issued to new registrations under the CVS since 1st July. If anyone with an existing CVS registration wants to change to the new plate, they can, for a one-off payment for the plate. The new plates have the words "classic vehicle" written on them. They measure 317mm X 134mm. They will mount to existing plate mounting points.

VISIT UK IN 2025

The CMC is organising a visit to the UK in 2025 that will include attending the Goodwood Festival, plus many museums and manufacturers. As well as the usual touristy sight-seeing. If you want to go you have to start the booking process soon. Contact Lynelle on 0422 513 256

WAGGA WAGGA VETERAN & VINTAGE

MOTOR CLUB RALLY

KING'S BIRTHDAY JUNE WEEKEND, 2024.

Story & Photos: Peter Ellis



Ralf Corbacho's Leyland P76 and Peter Ellis' Volvo

A big title for a rally that has been held on what many of us have always known as the Queen's birthday weekend, now the King's Birthday. This club has been staging the rally since 1966, when it started out as principally a Motorcycle Rally – I know as I used to attend in the early '70's with my brother Greg plus Uncle Barry Graham & wife Yvonne (former members of our club). In those days we trailered our motorcycles, both solo and outfits (*Barry always considered Yvonne's comfort*) to these very well-attended rallies in the beautiful but body-numbing cold countryside of Wagga Wagga.

This year we all (see SCVCC participants below) travelled in car comfort, although the Friday trip in pouring and heavy rain, until just past Yass, took its toll on us all, including group leaders, Rex and Merryn, who boldly led in their Ford, albeit with limited visibility (*read: windscreen wipers not working*). John Churchill and Joan McDonald had already arrived when our small group got to the check-in Friday pm at the new Clubhouse of the WWVVMC. This was a trend for the rally, signaled by the fact that John and Joan were Entry #1!

The new digs for the Wagga Club are everything they could hope for; with extensive parking, great amenities including separate disabled toilet with a baby change bench, a main dividable hall area that could seat at least 70 – 80, additional rooms and modern communication and security systems. The new building is a Council owned Community Hall which the club and the U3A lease. The public can also lease the building at vacant times. The club only 'moved in' In May so the Rally was certainly a baptism for the members and the new facility.

Saturday saw the main run flagged away from the clubhouse and travel through lovely but quite dry country to Gundagai, the main destination. Rally participants then spent time exploring this great town – quite a lot to see with the girls heading for the markets/shops while the fellas took in the pub (looking only 😊) and the local museum, marveling at all the implements of yesteryear – for example the telephone with a numbered dial (confusing for those under 40!).

Lunch was at the local RSL and turned into a poor affair as Covid had 3 staff not show up to work – so, 1 cook and 1 lass served the masses. Lots of grumbling as most waited for an hour to be served. Praise though for the young lass that steadfastly served us all with calmness and grace. John and Joan had no issues as they were sensible enough to get there first.

Saturday night was a BBQ at the new clubroom, and what a contrast to lunch as the Wagga Wagga Club members did themselves proud making best use of the new facility. Great food with a friendly composure and no less than 11 members serving the participants from the groaning tables of salad and BBQ meats. The evening was BYO with a friendly and casual atmosphere, enjoyed by everyone.

Sunday had us all gather at the Range Function Centre grounds; a great venue and one that gets good use from the Wagga Wagga community. It was certainly cold – but, as John Churchill laconically pointed out, not cool enough to warrant wearing long trousers!! John did everything in his trusty shorts!

With 104 entries there were not nearly as many vehicles as last year; which was a combined CHMC event. Our vehicles blended in amongst the gathering of interesting and exotic, although the erstwhile P76 attracted the usual gaggle of onlookers/commentators/former owners, with absolutely everyone having an enthusiastic opinion – all increasing Ralf and Lali's pleasure.

The attention wasn't all the way of the P76 though, as Rex and Merryn's '65 Ford Futura was the envy of all. Rex had it standing majestic with all windows down accentuating its pillarless sleek and powerful stance. It really did present well, and drew many favorable comments during the rally.

There were some lovely vintage vehicles on display (see photos), as well as many classic vehicles, that were obviously equally loved. Surprisingly there were only 3 motorcycles: a Harley WW2 outfit, a 1950 Triumph Speed Twin, and a gorgeous American 1909 V Twin Pope, which the owner rode on some of the runs.

The Sunday night grand dinner was a country themed event and the majority dressed for the occasion. I tried my hand at whip cracking – did not go down too well with the fellow on the closest table, however I did offer to pay for his split hat. The highlight (apart from the great company) was the awarding of the only trophy of the Rally – 'Winner Best Vehicle' to Rex & Merryn for their wonderful Ford: a widely supported win and some compensation to Rex after his disappointment of having a great car just pipped last year.

Everyone travelled home safely with, for our party, a stop at Cootamundra, Junee then Boorowa for lunch – always trying to avoid those dangerous highways. No breakdowns, good roads, great company, and driving our lovely classic vehicles – what our passion is all about!



Rex Kilner's award-winning Falcon



Some of the cars on display, with John Churchill's FC



Under the bonnet of Rex Kilner's Falcon



A variety of vintage vehicles



Georgie & Peter Ellis, dressed for the evening



Rex with his award



Georgie in the boot of the P76



Ralf & Lali, Rex & Merryn, Georgie & Peter



Street scene Wagga Wagga. (Photo from online).

DENIS DONALD'S VINTAGE AROUND THE LAKE

16th June 2024

Story: Ken Horspool. Photos: Ken Horspool, Elwyn Jordan



A great day and a great roll up, with **5 vintage cars** including Ralf and Lali Corbacho's new to them 1930 Buick Sports Tourer. And there were **15 classic cars**, carrying 41 people, including 5 from the Illawarra Vintage Car Club. Two of the day's participants were Ralf and Lali's visitors from Spain, Joe and Connie Fernandez.

Winners of the Presidents' choice were **Gary Harrison** of the Illawarra Vintage Car Club with his 1949 Morris Minor presented by Bob McLean and **Brian Taylor** of the South Coast Vintage Car Club with his 1969 Mercedes Benz 280SL presented by Ron Hillard.

Those in attendance:

Paul Cook	25 Dodge	Denis & Betty Donald	28 Chevrolet
Ted & Lesley Arnts	29 Dodge	Ralf & Lali Corbacho	30 Buick Tourer
		Joe & Connie Fernandez (visitors from Spain)	
Ken Horspool	30 Chev	Jan Horspool	52 Morgan Plus 4
Bruno Manfiotto	61 MGA	Bob & June McLean	64 Daimler V8
Garry & Anne O'Reilly	64 Cortina GT	Rob & Ann Warmington	67 MGB GT
Brian & Monika Taylor	69 Mercedes	Chris Dorahy	69 MGC GT
Kev & Bev McClarence	70 Triumph TR6	Bill & Diane Robertson	71 HG Holden
Ron Arnts	73 Pontiac Firebird	Ernst & Joan Jensen	78 Alfa Romeo
Harry & Kim Franke	83 Volvo		

MODERN: John Churchill, Alf Gregory, Bill & Margaret Carey, Helen & Josh James, Elwyn Jordan

ILLAWARRA VINTAGE CAR CLUB

Gary Harrison	49 Morris Minor	John Turner	69 Mini
Carol & Ron Hillard	78 Mercedes		

MODERN: Marie Laughton



THE WINNING CARS



Brian Taylor's 1969 Mercedes 280SL



Gary Harrison's 1949 Morris Minor



Denis Donald's 1928 Chev



Paul Cook's 1925 Dodge



Ralf Corbacho's 1930 Buick



Bruno Manfiotto's 1961 MGA



Jan Horspool's 1952 Morgan



Ted Arnt's 1929 Dodge



The backs and fronts of some of the automotive delights on display



Brian Taylor receiving his trophy



Some of the people, enjoying lunch and a chat

RUN TO CORDEAUX DAM

22nd June 2024

Story & Photo: Ken Horspool



The weather was not the best, although the rain was very intermittent and light and our shelter provided us with good protection from the cool breeze.

The McLeans had a bit of mechanical woes with the Daimler playing up on the run up Mt Ousley. They decided to head back home from the rest spot at the top and return in their modern. Of course the Daimler ran perfectly on the way home – many of us can relate to that!

A warning for anyone going to Cordeaux in a low sports car: the road in has been resurfaced, which is excellent, but the new speed humps are ridiculous. Both Chris's MGC and my TR6 bottomed so badly we went bush on the way back out to avoid them. I have sent an email to Water NSW about the problem.

Those in attendance:

Bob & June McLean	64 Daimler V8	Chris Dorahy	69 MGC GT
Harry Franke	70 Volvo 144	Ken Horspool	71 Triumph TR6
Ron & Lynne Denniss	78 Mercedes Benz		

ILLAWARRA YACHT CLUB CHRISTMAS IN JULY

4th July 2024

Story: Ken Horspool

41 people attended our Christmas in July (42 if we include Santa) in the lovely venue at the eastern end of the Illawarra yacht Club. It was a cold threatening day, but it was great to see that members still brought four (enclosed) classic cars along.

Big thank you to John Dunn for organising the day.

Those in Attendance:

Neil & Catharina Beattie	85 Jaguar XJ6	Graeme Clark	90 Mitsubishi Magna
Gary & Judy Woodward	90 Mercedes 300E	Bill & Margaret Carey	94 Statesman

MODERN:

Tony McLeod, Lloyd Chatfield, Paul Cook, Jennifer Despotovic, Ken Horspool, Bob McLean, Ted & Lesley Arnts, Jim & Robyn Hughes, Ron & Lynne Denniss, Denis & Betty Donald, John & Ann Dunn, Nev & Marilyn Egan, Les & Colleen Hall, Ralf & Lali Corbacho, Helen & Josh James, Rex Kilner & Merryn Preddey, Kev & Bev McClarence, Garry & Anne O'Reilly, David & Jo Philip, Chris & Lynn Fitzpatrick.

LUNCH RUN TO STUART PARK

26th June 2024

Story & Photos: Ken Horspool



A great day saw a great rollup to enjoy the sun and the entertainment of the parachutes landing in the park. Interesting to note the increasing number of 1990s cars appearing in the club.

Those In Attendance:

Ted & Lesley Arnts	52 Plymouth	Russell Heazlett	54 MG TF
Peter & Eileen Akhurst	61 Austin Healey	David Philip	64 Mercedes 300SE
Garry & Anne O'Reilly	65 Cortina GT500	Andrew Conacher	67 MGB
Stuart MacGregor	70 Triumph TR6	Ken & Jan Horspool	71 Triumph TR6
Jim & Robyn Hughes	72 LJ Torana 2850	Bruno & Rosanna Manfiotto	80 Toyota T118
Harry & Kim Franke	83 Volvo	Graeme Clark	90 Magna
Roderick Haselden	93 Ford Falcon	Graeme Corbett	94 Magna

MODERN: Rudy Waalkens



FARM CLUB CAFE WERAI

30th June 2024

Story & Group Photo: Catharina Beattie. Top photo: Café website.



The day prior to this club run, Neil and I decided to take our 1984 XJS Jaguar and thought we should give her a wash. Unfortunately, that was a waste of time as the Jag mucked up and we thought we should play it safe and turned back home. I guess this is what you expect from old cars on some occasions. We then went in our modern.

The week leading up to this run the weather was glorious, however that was not to be on the day. It was a cold 6°C and wet. The 22 of us stayed dry and relatively warm in the saddler's shed next to the café and enjoyed the salubrious range of hot pies and sausage rolls that were on offer. Most were tempted and went back for a sweet treat and a warm cuppa. We were not disappointed. It was difficult to decide what to have as the scones, the rhubarb and apple crumble tart, the sticky date and apple sponge with thick caramel sauce, cheesecake etc all looked fantastic.

The Farm Club, which belongs to the Snake Creek Cattle Company, advertises itself as a 'working farm', paddock to plate and "agritourism". It has a café, nursery and butchery. It also offers farm stays, farm tours and horsemanship clinics. I will be definitely going back in spring, when it is warmer.

Those in attendance:

Ken & Jan Horspool	58 Holden FC Ute
Fiona & Owen Love	75 Mercedes 450 SL
Bill Robertson	81 Mercedes 280CE
Ralf & Lali Corbacho	85 Jaguar Sovereign
Geoff Faulkner	90 Toyota Landcruiser

MODERN: Bob & June McLean, Ron & Lynne Denniss, Ron & Lynne's daughter Fiona & Wayne Duruox plus Maddison, Neil & Catharina Beattie, David & Colleen Davies, Garry & Anne O'Reilly, Chris Dorahy



COOKING WITH CATHARINA

No, we're not turning the Klaxon into a cooking magazine! But at our Christmas meeting last December, **Catharina Beattie** made a Mexican Layered Dip, for our goodies after the official part was over. This delicacy was enjoyed by several people who asked her for the recipe. She said she would send it in to be included in the Klaxon. Well, she hadn't got around to doing that, and then at our April meeting she was asked about it again. So we thought if it was still being requested 4 months later, we better put it in!

It was supposed to go in the May issue, but somehow got lost in the system. (*I lost it. Ed*). However, the lost has been found, and finally, here it is!

Mexican Layered Dip



- Corn chips
- Old El Paso Refried Beans 435g
- Old El Paso Taco Spice Mix 30g
- Bulla Premium Sour Cream 200ml
- 1 ripe avocado, mashed
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 tomato, diced
- 1/2 cup ready-made salsa
- 3/4 cup grated tasty cheese

Note: You can replace the fresh avocado with a ready-made guacamole.

Or

You can add Old El Paso Guacamole Spice Mix 30g to the mashed avocado.

Instructions

1. In a small bowl, mix the refried beans and taco seasoning together.
2. Spoon bean mixture into the base of a shallow square casserole dish, spread to form bottom layer.
3. Spread sour cream evenly over bottom layer.
4. In a small bowl mix together avocado and lemon juice, stir in tomatoes and season with salt and pepper.
5. Carefully spoon avocado mixture over sour cream.
6. Evenly pour the salsa to form next layer.
7. Finally, sprinkle with cheese.
8. Serve with corn chips.

ALFA ROMEO SPIDER

Story: Elwyn Jordan. Photos: Elwyn Jordan & Online sources



They say that you're not a real motoring enthusiast until you've owned an Alfa Romeo. Well, **Fred Naase** certainly qualified, as he at one time owned an Alfa. A beautiful thing it was too! It was a **1972 Alfa Romeo Spider – 2000cc model**.

The car pictured on the left *could be* the one he had, but I can't verify that. It *was* in our club a few years ago, that much I know. And it is the same colour as the one Fred had. It probably is his.

In this article I'll take a look at the Alfa Spider in general, and at Fred's model in particular.

The Spider was first introduced in 1966, and was a Pininfarina designed sports car / convertible based on the Alfa Romeo 105 series Giulia, released a few years earlier. The concept was based on similar type designs stretching back into the mid 1950s. When released it had the same under-pinnings as the Giulia; which comprised independent front suspension, De-Dion rear suspension, and disc brakes all round. For 1966 it was a spectacularly good looking car!



Under the bonnet was the beautiful twin-cam Alfa engine, of 1600cc, sporting twin Weber carburetors and producing 80kW. Later it was upgraded to 1750cc, producing 87 kW, with a top speed of 190 km/h.

In 1971 it received a further upgrade to 2000 cc, and 98 kW. This is the particular version we're looking at here – the same one Fred had.

In 1968 a lower powered 1300 cc version had also been introduced, called the Spider 1300 Junior.

A 5-speed manual gearbox, with floor shift of course, and standard Pirelli radial tyres completed the sporty package.



Inside, the sporty theme continued, with supportive bucket seats, sporty steering wheel, and directly in front of the driver a tacho graduated to 10,000 rpm, and a speedo graduated to 140 mph.

In 1970 the Series 2, of which Fred's was an example of course, was introduced. There were various tweaks, but the most obvious change was to the rear styling, which brought with it the advantage of a larger boot. And then the larger engine, as mentioned above, a year later.

So, what was it like to drive? Did it live up to the expectations of an Italian sporty thoroughbred? Well, according to reports, yes, it did. It received very good reviews in its day, with road testers praising its performance, ride and handling. The combination of the lusty 2-litre engine and 5-speed gearbox made it an enjoyable car for the enthusiast to drive, complemented by the powerful braking of 4-wheel discs. Remember, it was 1966 when the first model was released, and 1971 when the updated version came out; and for that period it was very impressive.

Even today it remains a pleasurable drive. Dave Morley, writing in Unique Cars, said that if you found a good one, “You’ll be amazed at just how good a car as old as this can feel.” He went on to say, “The engine is a true delight and every time you hoist the car into a corner you’ll wonder how they managed to make the chassis so smooth and supple, yet still yearn for apexes (in corners) the way it does.” So, even today, especially when judged by standards of the time, it has performance, handling, and braking that the enthusiast can still enjoy.

America was always a big market for cars from Europe and Britain, so modifications to design were often incorporated as a means to getting sales in the US. It was probably with this in mind that a couple of small seats were added in the back, creating a 2+2 version. It was also around that time that the lovely chrome bumpers were replaced with those horrible US-market black rubber things.

In 1982 the 3rd generation appeared, and there were a few more of these US-spec tweaks. Ditto for the 4th and final version released in 1990. In many ways I think this makes the early 2nd-generation models (like the one Fred had) the pick of them all.

Production ended in 1993. Total number produced depends on what source you look at, but one figure stated it as 38,379.

SPIDER ON SCREEN

The Alfa Spider features in many films, but most famously in the movie “The Graduate”. That film was made just one year after the car’s release, in 1967; so of course the car featured in it is the first series. Here are a couple of stills from the movie. Dustin Hoffman at the wheel.



As a car nut, and a fan of Alfas; as well as a fan of Simon & Garfunkel (whose music was extensively featured in the movie) I loved the movie when I saw it in the late 1960s.

FRED’S ALFA

Some members – especially those new to our club – might wonder what happened to the car. Well, Fred sold it; to another club member. He replaced it with a Mercedes 450SLC – a beautiful car, powered by a 4.5 litre V8.

The member who bought the Alfa later moved away from the area.

(Info: Wikipedia, Unique Cars)



‘THE GRADUATE’ TRIVIA

Anne Bancroft, who played the older woman who seduced the young man played by Dustin Hoffman, was actually only 6 years older than him. And she was only 8 years older than Katherine Ross, who played her daughter in the film.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

YES, THIS DOES AFFECT YOU!

Story: Elwyn Jordan

Artificial Intelligence – usually abbreviated to **AI** – unless you’ve been living under a rock somewhere you will have heard the term. You might not know anything about it, but you will have heard the term. And **it does affect you!** And whether you know it or not, **you will already have encountered it.**

Artificial Intelligence is used for an incredibly wide range of things – from enabling students to cheat on assignments, to top surgeons performing intricate and complex operations.

You’re probably aware that it has something to do with computers; or machines operated by computers. “*Nothing to do with me!*” You might say. **Wrong!** As I said, **you might not be aware of it, but you will already have encountered it.** Medical procedures, medical analysis, news reports, videos and the narration that accompanies them; all these things can, and often do, involve Artificial Intelligence. But let’s just look at writing – what you encounter in magazines and newspaper articles and so on. **ChatGPT** is the branch of AI that is involved in creating text for stories, articles, song lyrics, poetry etc.

Basically, ChatGPT allows a computer to research and write about any subject you give it. Now, stick with me on this. It doesn’t matter if you’re not into computers, you might not even have a computer, but **if you read newspapers or magazines there’s a good chance that part of what you read has been written by a computer, rather than a real person. And you should be aware of that.** Used wisely it can be a good tool, but if too much is left to the computer, what you read can be factually incorrect. So it’s important to be aware of this.

To briefly explain how this works, most people would be familiar with Google: you type in a subject and it gives you a list of websites to get information from. ChatGPT goes a couple of steps further: give it a subject and it searches for websites that have the relevant information, then collates that information and presents it as a written article. And it literally does this in a matter of seconds!

You can imagine the potential this presents for lazy journalists (and lazy students)! The thing is, it doesn’t claim to be infallible (*and it certainly isn’t!*), so the information it presents **should** be checked for accuracy. As you can imagine, it is easy for a journalist to not check, and just publish the article with just a few changes to get around any copyright issues. (*Copyright with articles produced by ChatGPT is a complex issue*). But if articles are published without the information being checked, **you can very easily find yourself reading wrong information.** And, of course, the article won’t say it was written by a computer (*because the journalist wouldn’t get paid!*), so you don’t know. It is difficult to detect if an article has been written by a real person or a computer. And this is why you should be aware of AI and how it is being used, and mis-used.

Quite some time ago (I’ve had this article in the pipeline for several months) I decided to check it out. **I asked it to give me a description of several classic cars. Then I checked what it came up with for accuracy.** I used examples that were common, and well known, and others that were less known and more obscure. The results were both interesting and revealing. Some it got completely right; others less so. Here are **some of the cars I gave it where the results were not so correct.**

Holden EK. The article it produced started out being accurate, including the basic description of engine, but it said the EK was the third model that Holden produced, after the FJ, FB. (*Missed out on some important ones there!*).

Holden FC. Having omitted this model from its description of the EK, I thought I'd give it a shot at this. It claimed the FC was "part of the FJ series". (!!) It correctly stated it was a successor to the FE, and gave the correct engine size (2.2 litre, which is roughly accurate), but then said, "In 1959 Holden introduced a more powerful 2.6 litre". It also said the FC was available with an automatic transmission, (*which it wasn't of course*), and then claimed the FC was the first panelvan that Holden produced. (*Wrong again*).

Jowett Javelin. (I tried this because I was writing an article about it at the time). What it produced was pretty good, although it got some details wrong; such as saying that the Jupiter was a forerunner to the Javelin, (*it was the reverse of that*). It also got suspension details wrong; although a few articles I read while doing my own research got that wrong as well.

Goggomobil Dart. This was probably a curly one to give it. The basic description was fairly accurate, but it said it was made in Germany, by the same manufacturer of the original Goggomobil (*wrong!*); and didn't mention Bill Buckle (who was the one who designed and produced it) at all!

Morris Major Elite. This one stumped it. It couldn't find anything on that (*really?*) and suggested I'd got the name wrong.

Austin Lancer. It said it was made by the Austin company between 1958 and 1961. (*The years are correct*); but said it was part of the Austin A99 – A110 series. (*Wrong*). It (*correctly*) said it was basically a re-badged Morris Major, and went on to say that it had a spacious interior (*wrong – interior dimensions were about the same as Morris Minor*), and said it was powered by a 6-cylinder engine of 2.6 litre capacity. (*It used a 1.5 litre 4 cylinder*).

Australian Six. I was referring to that first car of the 1920s, but, despite giving it three goes at it, it thought I was referring to the 6-cylinder engines used in Holdens and Falcons. I tried "Australian Six Car", and "Australian Six Historic Car", but it didn't know about the early car.

This raises another point with ChatGPT. You can ask it the same question several times, and each time it produces a different response. The responses are not necessarily wrong, they're just different, assuming that you weren't happy with what it came up with the first time.

IMAGINE HOW THIS CAN AFFECT YOU!

The problem here is obvious. If you are reading an article that is produced by an author who doesn't check the facts, that article can have serious flaws and inaccuracies! This is increasingly likely today where the number of journalists has been drastically cut. The journalists who remain are under pressure to produce content – so a few seconds on a computer can produce something to publish; including whatever mistakes the article came up with.

It's also a danger when reading content in, for example, club magazines, where a lazy editor can produce articles that contain the same inaccuracies. Just another reason to be aware of how AI can affect you, and what you read.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CLASSIC CAR SCENE.

Now, to be fair, **AI can be extremely good, and produce truly startling results.** Here is an example. It is an excellent article!

I told ChatGPT to, "Write a short article on the significance of the classic car scene." This is what it came up with. And **it produced this article in a couple of seconds.** I didn't change a word; this is exactly what started appearing on my screen a couple of seconds after I typed in the question. The important thing to remember is that **this was written entirely by a computer; not a human!**

The Classic Car Scene: A Celebration of Automotive Heritage

The classic car scene, an enduring and vibrant subculture within the automotive world, serves as both a tribute to the past and a dynamic community of enthusiasts dedicated to preserving and celebrating automotive history. This scene encompasses a diverse array of vintage vehicles, from early 20th-century classics to more recent models, all cherished for their historical significance, design, and engineering.

Preserving Automotive Heritage

At its core, the classic car scene is about preservation. Classic cars, which typically refer to vehicles over 20 years old, represent significant milestones in automotive history. Each car carries a story of technological innovation, design evolution, and cultural impact. By restoring and maintaining these vehicles, enthusiasts ensure that future generations can experience and appreciate the craftsmanship and historical context of these machines.

Community and Connection

The classic car scene is more than just a hobby; it's a community. Car clubs, events, and shows bring together enthusiasts who share a passion for vintage automobiles. These gatherings provide a platform for owners to showcase their meticulously restored vehicles, exchange restoration tips, and celebrate their shared interest. The camaraderie found in the classic car community fosters friendships and a sense of belonging, transcending geographical and generational boundaries.

Economic and Cultural Impact

The classic car industry also has a notable economic impact. Restoration shops, parts suppliers, and auction houses thrive on the demand for classic car maintenance and restoration. High-profile auctions and car shows not only generate significant revenue but also attract tourism, contributing to local economies. Culturally, classic cars serve as tangible connections to past eras, reflecting the design aesthetics and technological advancements of their times.

Educational Value

Classic cars offer educational opportunities, providing insights into the evolution of automotive technology and design. For enthusiasts and students alike, these vehicles offer a hands-on way to learn about mechanical systems, manufacturing processes, and historical context. The preservation of these cars helps maintain a living record of automotive history, which can inspire future innovations and design philosophies.

Conclusion

The classic car scene is a celebration of automotive heritage, community, and culture. By preserving these iconic vehicles, enthusiasts honor the history and craftsmanship that have shaped the automotive industry. As the scene continues to thrive, it ensures that the legacy of classic cars endures, offering a glimpse into the past while fostering connections and inspiring future generations.

WHAT'S FOR SALE?



Note: * indicates the item's first appearance. ** indicates the item is listed for the 2nd time.

FOR SALE:*	NIL
FOR SALE:**	NIL
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